

Psalm 126:1-6
Heb 423
Class 2, January 20, 2026

Old Winyard - all the
to till
Moses
part of the

1	
	שִׁיר הַמַּעֲלוֹת בְּשׁוּב יְהוָה אֶת־שִׁיבַת צִיּוֹן הָיִינוּ כְּחֹלְמִים:
A SONG OF ASCENTS When the LORD returned the captivity of Zion <LSB: the captive ones/ESV: the fortunes> We were like dreamers. <LSB/ESV: those who dream>	
(שִׁיר) שִׁיר	Noun ds Constr <i>A song</i>
(מַעֲלָה) הַמַּעֲלוֹת	Noun fp Abs <i>Of ascents/degrees</i>
(שׁוּב) בְּשׁוּב	Prep (temporal) + Qal IC ✓ Bicon (aka hollow verb) IC: Prep To return
(שִׁיבָה) אֶת־שִׁיבָה	DDOM + Noun fs Constr <i>The fortunes/captivity</i> - exile / restoration of fortune
(הָיָה) הָיִינוּ	Qal perfect 1cp (nu-nun shureq postformative) To be
(חֹלֵם) כְּחֹלְמִים	Qal/Ptc mp Abs To dream

- as well being

שִׁיבָה

שׁוּב

substantial - 90% of time
Pure noun Ptc

Engbs - worse off - bec in Heb, title is v1

Psalm 126:1-6
Heb 423
Class 2, January 20, 2026

2	
אֶז יִמְלֵא שְׂחֹק פִּינוֹ וּלְשׁוֹנֵנוּ רִנָּה אֶז יֹאמְרוּ בְּגוֹיִם הַגְדִּיל יְהוָה לַעֲשׂוֹת עִם-אֲלֵהָ:	
Then our mouth (sing) will be filled with laughter <ESV/LSB: <u>was</u> filled> And our tongue (sing) with shouts of joy (sing) Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things <u>for</u> them."	
שְׂחֹק O: פִּינוֹ S: (מְלֵא) יִמְלֵא	Niphal (passive) imperfect 3ms Niphal: daghesh R1 Subject: our mouth To be full/fulfil
שְׂחֹק (שְׂחֹק)	Noun ms Abs With laughter
וּלְשׁוֹנֵנוּ (לְשׁוֹן)	Conj + Noun ds Constr + 1cp PS With shouts of joy
רִנָּה (רִנָּה)	Noun fs Abs To cry out
יֹאמְרוּ (אָמַר)	Qal imperfect 3mp To say
הַגְדִּיל (גָּדַל)	Hiphil (causative) perfect 3ms To be great
לַעֲשׂוֹת (עָשָׂה)	Qal IC To do

Note: I translated the ending "The LORD made great to do with these."

The L is making to do with these ones
The L has made great with these
ie the nations are testifying the great things the L has done with them

Psalm 126:1-6
 Heb 423
 Class 2, January 20, 2026

*verb ends in shewens
 shewens-
 diplois*

3		
		הַגִּדִּיל יְהוָה לַעֲשׂוֹת עִמָּנוּ הֵינּוּ שְׂמֵחִים:
The LORD has done great things <u>for</u> us; We are glad.		
הַגִּדִּיל (גִּדַּל)		Hiphil (causative) perfect 3ms To do great things
לַעֲשׂוֹת (עָשָׂה)		Qal IC To do
הֵינּוּ (הָיָה)		Qal perfect 1cp ✓ To be ✓
שְׂמֵחִים (שָׂמַח)		Adj mp Abs Glad

Psalmist plays w/ both meanings
static store
what's real vs what's with
should be? as in v1

4	
	שׁוּבָה יְהוָה אֶת־שְׁבִי־תָנוּ כְּאֶפְיָקִים בְּנֶגֶב:
Restore, O LORD, our captivity, <ESV: fortunes> As the streams in the Negev. <ESV: Negeb/BLB: south>	
שׁוּבָה (שׁוּב)	Qal imperative 2ms + Paragogic He To restore/return
כְּאֶפְיָקִים (אֶפְיָק)	Prep + Noun mp Abs Streams/stream-beds

*2ms
 as before
 same as the*

possesses

static/possessions

parallelism - simile
- emblematic parallelism

v1 - where's what the Psalmist wants

v2 - the image of what the Psalmist wants

*In the south, any water U get is temporary - it's always dry
 & dry river bed - the water runs on the stream bed*

Psalm 126:1-6
Heb 423
Class 2, January 20, 2026

5	
ש ו ס הִזְרְעִים בְּדִמְעָה בְּרִנָּה יִקְצְרוּ:	
Those sowing in tears, In shouts of joy they shall reap.	
הִזְרְעִים (זָרַע)	Qal Ptc mp To sow
בְּדִמְעָה (דִּמְעָה)	Prep + Noun fs Abs <i>In tears</i>
בְּרִנָּה (רִנָּה)	Prep + Noun fs Abs <i>In shouts of joy</i>
יִקְצְרוּ (קָצַר)	Qal imperfect 3mp To reap/harvest

6	
	הָלוֹךְ יֵלֵךְ וּבָכָה נִשָּׂא מִשָּׂךְ-הַנָּרַע בָּא-יָבוֹא בְרִנָּה נִשָּׂא אֶלְמָתָיו:
He <i>who</i> goes to and fro weeping Bearing <i>his</i> bag of seed <ESV: bearing the seed for sowing> He shall indeed come in joy <LSB: with a shout of joy> - <i>as our fortunes are restored by streams in Hallelujah</i> Bearing his sheaves. <LSB/ESV: bearing his sheaves <i>with him</i>>	
הָלוֹךְ (הֵלֵךְ)	Qal IA IA: Note 1 To and fro (emphasis)
יֵלֵךְ (הֵלֵךְ)	Qal imperfect 3ms To go
וּבָכָה (בָּכָה)	Conj + Qal IA Note 3 To weep
נִשָּׂא (נִשָּׂא)	Qal Ptc ms To bear/pull up
מִשָּׂךְ	Noun ms Constr Bag/precious
בָּא (בּוֹא)	Qal IA IA: Note 2 Indeed (emphasis)
יָבוֹא (בּוֹא)	Qal imperfect 3ms To go
בְּרִנָּה (רִנָּה)	Prep + Noun fs Abs
נִשָּׂא (נִשָּׂא)	Qal Ptc ms Ptc: because it's like a noun To bear/pull up
אֶלְמָתָיו (אֶלְמָה)	Noun fp + 3ms PS Fem: qamets He ending in lexical form Plural: holem taw Sheaves

Note 1: The Hebrew word הָלוֹךְ (halokh) is classified as an infinitive absolute because of its form, lack of prepositions, and grammatical function to intensify, emphasize, or indicate the continuous nature of the verb "to go" (הֵלֵךְ).

It is specifically considered an infinitive absolute for the following reasons:

Psalm 126:1-6
Heb 423
Class 2, January 20, 2026

Distinctive Form (Qal Stem): In the Qal stem, the infinitive absolute takes the vowel pattern o-o (holding an o-class vowel under the first and second root letters), resulting in halokh. This differs from the Qal infinitive construct, which typically appears as lēhok or lēlok.

Lack of Prefixes/Suffixes: The infinitive absolute "stands on its own as an independent grammatical entity" and never occurs with a prefix (like the preposition ל-le-) or a pronominal suffix. If it had a lamed prefix (e.g., lahalokh), it would be an infinitive construct.

Functions as an Adverb or Intensifier:

Intensity/Continuity: It is frequently used with a finite verb of the same root (e.g., halokh veshokh - "going and returning") to express ongoing, continuous, or repeated action.

Emphasis: It can be used to strengthen the verbal idea, translating as "surely" or "certainly".

"Absolute" Status: Unlike the infinitive construct, which is "bound" to another word or preposition, the infinitive absolute is not dependent on a preceding word.

Examples in Context:

Genesis 8:5: Uses the phrase halokh veshokh (הלֹךְ וְשׁוֹב) to describe the waters receding "continually" or "more and more".

General usage: When used alone, it often emphasizes the action in the abstract.

Note 2: The Hebrew word בָּא (**bō'**), which means "to come" or "coming," is classified as an **infinitive absolute** (specifically in the Qal stem) because of its specific form and grammatical function in Biblical Hebrew.

Here is why it is considered an infinitive absolute:

- **Distinctive Form (Vocalization):** In the Qal stem, the infinitive absolute commonly uses a "o-o" or "o-a" vowel pattern (e.g., *kāṭōb*, *šāmōa*). The form בָּא (with a *cholem*) represents this, whereas the infinitive construct for this root (בֹּא) is usually different (typically בֹּא - *bō'* or in other contexts using lamed prefixes).
- **"Absolute" (Unattached) State:** It is called "absolute" because it stands independently, meaning it does not take prefixes (like the preposition ל - *lē*, "to") or suffixes (like pronominal possessives). It is not bound to another word in a construct chain.
- **Emphatic or Verbal Noun Function:** It is used to emphasize a verb (e.g., "come, surely come") or to function as a noun (e.g., "the coming").

Example:

If *bō'* appears before a finite verb, it is being used to intensify that verb, characteristic of an infinitive absolute.

Note 3: The form וּבְכָה (u-bākōh - "and weeping" / "and [they] wept") is considered an **infinitive absolute** (specifically Qal, from the root בכה) because of its grammatical function and form, even when it is not functioning in its typical emphatic, "surely" capacity.

Here is why it is an infinitive absolute:

- **Morphological Structure:** The form בָּכָה (bākōh) displays the characteristic vocalization pattern of the Qal Infinitive Absolute: a long *a* in the first syllable and an *o* (hōlem) in the second, with a final *hē*. Unlike the infinitive construct (*li-vəkot*), it does not take a prepositional prefix like *le-* (to) or *be-* (in/when).
- **Continuation of Action:** The infinitive absolute can appear after a finite verb to continue a sequence of action (a, b, c). It is used here with the *waw* conjunction to continue a series of verbs, frequently appearing in narrative context with an "o" ending.
- **Emphatic or Descriptive Usage:** While often used with a finite verb of the same root to emphasize it (e.g., *mōt̄ tāmūt*—"you will surely die"), it can also be used independently to add intensity, create an "ing" gerund effect (weeping), or describe an ongoing, continuous state of action.
- **Independence:** As an "absolute" form, it is independent of a noun in a construct chain and is often used to emphasize the verbal idea in the abstract.

In contexts like this (e.g., Genesis 8:5, or similar narratives), the infinitive absolute often suggests a vivid, intense, or continuous action, serving a different function than a simple, inflected finite verb.